Construction of Mangalore-Bombay-Konkan Railway Project

1083. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have seen the news reports which appeared in the Hindustan Times of 9th April, 1990 under the caption 'An Innovative Concept of Cheaper Konkan Railway Plan' proposed by a former Railway official ;

(b) if so, what are the specific suggestions for the 837 km. Mangalore—Bombay—Konkan railway construction; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto and the follow-up action thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Statement is attached. (*See* below).

(c) The suggestions given do not merit any follow-up action as they cannot be implemented.

Statement

(b) Some suggestions as contained in the news report of Hindustan Times of 9-4-1990 are given below :—

(i) Self financing scheme with redeployment of redundant assets of the railways and one section paying for the next section ;

(ii) Emphasis on passenger and freight services first, buildings and amenities coming later, when the line becomes profitable ;

(iii) Line to be constructed from Mangalore to Chiplun only and from Chiplun to Dasgaon, the passengers can be taken by existing road transport services on the National Highway network ;

(iv) Land to be obtained on long lease from land owners by passing a special law if necessary for this purpose ;

(v) To find money and men for the project, surplus Bandra Marshalling Yard to be dismantled and the land in Metropolitan area be sold to finance the project. Surplus material and menpower of Bandra Yard to be redeployed for this project ; and

(vi) Use of unserviceable wagons/coaches as passenger waiting sheds at stations and doing away with terminal buildings, station buildings and platforms etc.

Availability of potable water and sanitation facilities in Andhra Pradesh

1084. SHRI TALARI MANOHAR : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the approximate urban population in Andhra Pradesh who are not getting safe drinking water and adequate sanitation facilities ; and

(b) the steps Government propose to take to provide safe drinking water in the urban areas of Andhra Pradesh ?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) The information is being collected.

(b) Water supply is a State subject. It is the responsibility of the Government of Andhra Pradesh to provide safe drinking water to the urban population by making necessary plan provisions in the State sector. They can draw upon institutional finance for additional resources.

Fish farming agencies in Andhra Pradesh

1085. SHRI TALARI MANOHAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the number and locations of the fish farming agencies set up so far in Andhra Pradesh ; and

(b) the specific contribution made by these agencies in the promotion of fishing during the Seventh Five Year Plan period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR) : (a) Fish Farmers' Development Agencies have been sanctioned for the following 22 districts in Andhra Pradesh ;

Karimnagar, Kurnool, Medak, Krishna, Nalgonda, East Godavari, West Godavari, Mahboobnagar, Nizamabad, Chittor, Khammam, Srikakulam, Vijayanagaram, Visakhapatnam, Guntoor, Prakasham, Nellore, Warangal, Adilabad, Anantpur, Cuddapah and Rangareddy.

(b) The contribution made by these agencies are given below :

(i)	Water area developed	5277 hectare
(ii)	Fishermen trained	4423
(iii)	Average annual fish production from tanks and ponds	1300—2000 kg per hectare.

Child Labour in Andhra Pradesh

1086. SHRI TALARI MANOHAR : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) what is the number of child labour in Andhra Pradesh ; and

(b) what steps Government propose to take to stop the inhuman exploitation of children in various industries ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) According to the 43rd round (during July, 1987—June, 1988) of the National Sample Survey, the number of child labourers in Andhra Pradesh is estimated to be about 2.65 million.

(b) The Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1956 prohibits the employment of children below fourteen years of age in certain specified occupations and processes. It also seeks to regulate their conditions of work in employments in which they are not prohibited from working. There are provisions in several other labour laws such as the Factories Act, 1948 ; the Mines Act, 1952; the Beedi and Cigar Workers (Conditions of Employment) Act, 1966 ; the Shops and Commercial Establishments Acts of the States/Union Territories ; etc. which either prohibit or regulate the employment of children in specified areas. Government have also formulated the National Policy on Child Labour—1987 which provides for a number of welfare measures to minimise the exploitation of working children. Under the project based plan of action of the Policy, two projects have been launched in Andhra Pradesh, for the welfare of children working in slate industry in Markapur and in tile industry in Jaggampet.

Performance of electric locos

1087. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the performance of bulk of electric locos (WAG 5 Class) on some of the graded sections on Indian Railway, is inferior even to that of the diesel locomotives, contrary to the experience and practice in the rest of the world ; if so, the reasons therefore ; and

(b) what action is being taken to upgrade the technology of these locomotives ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) Not factually correct. WAG5 class of electric locomotives can start heaviert loads and haul them at higher speeds even on graded sections.

(b) Does not arise.

Detection of juvenile deliquency cases

1088. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cases of juvenile deliquency have been detected during the last three years ; and

(b) what steps have been taken to reform these cases and what results have been achieved in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House, as soon as it has been compiled.

Acquisition and development of land in South Delhi

1089. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:

SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:

SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had notified acquisition of around 50,000 acres af land in about 11 villages of South Delhi for planned development and residential building purposes;